

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Receipt is acknowledged of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) and a submission, filed on 7/20/2009.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in email correspondence with Gordon Layard, one of the inventors, on 9/17/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace all previous versions of the claims with the version that follows.

1. (Currently amended) A ~~process software system~~ for creating and using an ~~use in~~ creating electronic screen based product, said ~~process system~~ comprising:
a ~~function to import~~ importing untagged source documents[.], and automatically process them, without the requirement for any user tagging within said converting the source documents[.], into a plurality of discrete electronic screens, which collectively form [[an]] the electronic screen based product; [[and]]

creating each of the electronic screens based upon one or more templates, wherein the one or more template are either user selected or selected by default, wherein each electronic screen is created by populating the one or more templates with text data from the source documents;

analyzing text in each of the electronic screens and automatically inserting an image into the electronic screen, wherein the insertion of the image is based upon the analyzed text;

~~a function to analyse the text of each said discrete electronic screen and then cross reference that text with metadata associated with images found in a collection of photographic and/or clip art files, automatically inserting a selected matching image into said analysed electronic screen.~~

automatically analyzing the electronic screens and automatically generating questions based upon the analyzed electronic screens;

presenting a graphical user interface that allows a user to edit the electronic screens and add additional electronic screens to the electronic screen based product;

publishing the electronic screen based product for use on a sharable content object reference model (SCORM) compliant learning management system; and

communicating end user progress and performance to a database.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein, based on process system-defaults or user selection, existing source document media are incorporated by the process ~~system~~ into said electronic screens.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein the nature of said discrete electronic screens are determined by user selected or default templates, fonts, and image types, sizes and categories.
4. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein new discrete electronic screens are forced, based on user selected or system defaults, when the system encounters page breaks within the source document.
5. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein new discrete electronic screens are forced ~~prescribed to begin~~, based on user selected or product defaults, when the process ~~system~~ encounters predetermined heading styles within the source document.
6. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein paragraphs or sentences, determined by process ~~system~~ defaults or user settings, from said discrete electronic screens, are automatically converted into interactive cloze activities.
7. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein end user navigation of said discrete electronic screens is facilitated by predefined, user selected navigational interfaces or schemes.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein a user menu electronic screen is automatically generated which provides end user access to the topics contained within said electronic screen based product.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein any hierarchical relationship that exists between said electronic screens can be manipulated, in terms of end user navigation, using a graphical user interface included within the process.

11. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein said discrete electronic screens, collectively forming an electronic screen based product is published by the process ~~system~~ for use on a stand alone computer or a local area network.

12. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein said discrete electronic screens, collectively forming an electronic screen based product is published by the process ~~system~~ for use on a web server for internet or intranet use.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 11, wherein said published electronic screen based product communicates end user progress and performance to a database which can be referenced by said published electronic screen based product itself and by the courseware designer, and anyone who has been provided with the appropriate access.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 12, wherein said published electronic screen based product communicates end user progress and performance to a database which can be referenced by said published electronic screen based product itself and by the courseware designer, and anyone who has been provided with the appropriate access.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein the process processes said source documents into said discrete electronic screens by sending commands and data to a predefined third party presentation slideshow authoring system.

18. (Currently amended) The ~~system, as set forth in~~ process of claim 1, wherein the format of said discrete electronic screens produced are compatible with and can be edited by a predefined third party presentation slideshow authoring product.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The combination of claimed elements is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art. A method for importing untagged documents and converting them into electronic screens or slides using templates and generating questions from those screens, as well as inserting images into the those screens based on the text that is allocated to the screen, Then allowing the user to edit the screens in a GUI and publish the screens as SCORM compliant objects, then storing the performance of the users of the screens in a database was not found in the prior art.

Certain elements of the method were found, namely, automatically generating screens or slides. As well as analyzing text and cross referencing the text with the metadata in an image an inserting the image into a document is disclosed. Allowing a user to use a GUI's to edit screens or slides is also well known.

All these elements have been disclosed, the combination of these elements is not show in the prior art. Thus the invention is novel and unobvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

See PTO-892 Notice of References Cited, for a listing of the prior art that was found that is relevant.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin J. Smith whose telephone number is (571) 270-3825. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:30AM-5:00PM EST..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached on (571) 272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Benjamin J. Smith/
Examiner, Art Unit 2176

/DOUG HUTTON/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2176